

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Bristlecone Field Office
702 N. Industrial Way
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To: 3809/2850 (NVL06000) NVN-82888, NVN-90443

AUG 1 7 2016

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District, Bristlecone Field Office has issued the Record of Decision for Barrick Gold U.S., Inc.'s Bald Mountain Mine (BMM) project. The decision allows the mining operator to expand existing gold mine facilities and construct and operate new facilities at Barrick's BMM North and South Operations Area projects. Construction and operation of the project will result in approximately 3,097 acres of authorized disturbance, 3,093 acres of which are on public land administered by the BLM and 4 acres are on private lands. The project is located in the Bald Mountain Mining District in White Pine County, Nevada, approximately 65 miles northwest of Ely and 40 miles northeast of Eureka.

Barrick completed the sale of the BMM to Kinross Gold Corporation (Kinross) in January 2016 prior to completion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. Kinross has assumed ownership of the BMM and the proposed expansion of the project. The Final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD) have retained the name of Barrick in the documents, but Kinross is the new operator of the BMM and proponent of the project.

The decision of the Bristlecone Field Manager, BLM Ely District, is to select the Western Redbird Modification (WRM) Alternative along with the applicant committed environmental protection measures included in the Plan and the mitigation measures specified in Chapter 3 and Appendix A of the Final EIS, as the BLM's Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative is the alternative that best fulfills the agency's statutory mission and responsibilities, considering economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. The BLM has determined that implementation of this decision with the identified monitoring and mitigation measures will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation of the public lands.

The Notice of Availability for the BMM Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) was published in the Federal Register on June 24, 2016. The 30-day public availability period ended on July 24, 2016. The Final EIS and the Record of Decision are available on the NEPA register at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html.

Project materials may also be viewed at the BLM Ely District Office, 702 N. Industrial Way, Ely, NV, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Pacific Standard Time, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (Board), U. S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Hearing and Appeals in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4.

For more information, contact Stephanie Trujillo, Assistant Field Manager, at (775) 289-1831 or strujill@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

Jill A. Moore Field Manager Egan Field Office